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Extra pages!

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

ISSN 0954-9390

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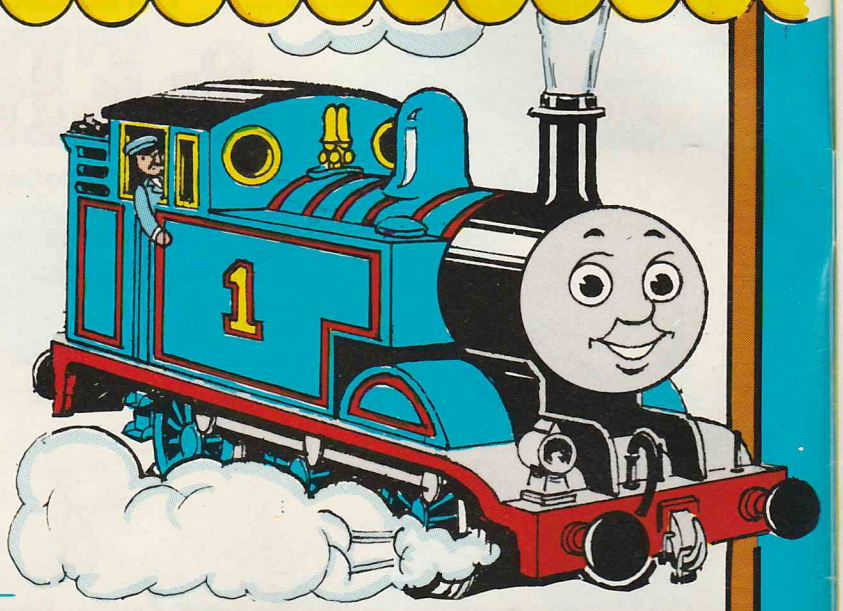
Harold and James are the best of friends!

THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE

Peep! Peep! In this issue, some new timetables have arrived at the station from the printers. Gordon gets in an awful muddle with his time schedule and ends up being scolded by the Fat Controller. Oh dear! Peep! Peep!



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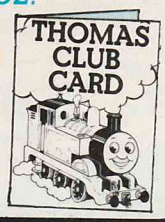
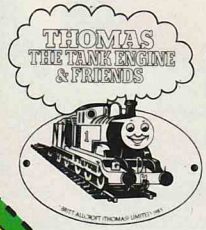


HELLO THERE!

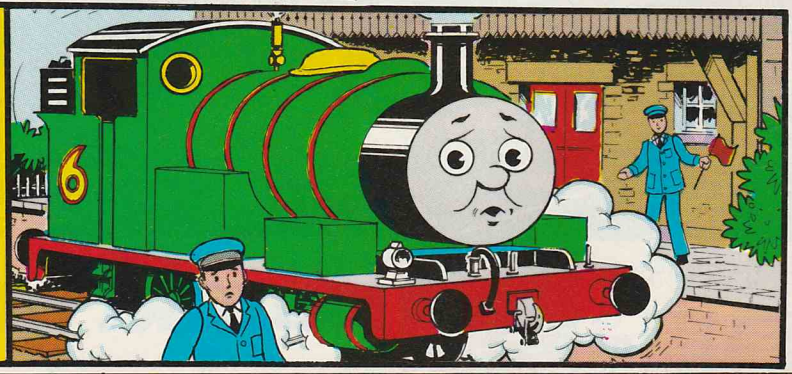
The Fat Controller would like to say a special hello to the following readers:

Neiaz Hamid, aged 6, **Alex Hornby,** aged 7, **Peter Jacob** (22760), aged 10, **Christopher Goulding,** aged 6, **Andrew McNab,** aged 3, **Gary Collinson** and **Thomas Wriglesworth,** aged 4.

If you'd like to receive a special mention on this page, just send your details to the Fat Controller at the address shown on the letters page.



In our next issue: Poor Percy is sad because he cannot work on the new Wildlife Park line!



THOMAS TOKEN

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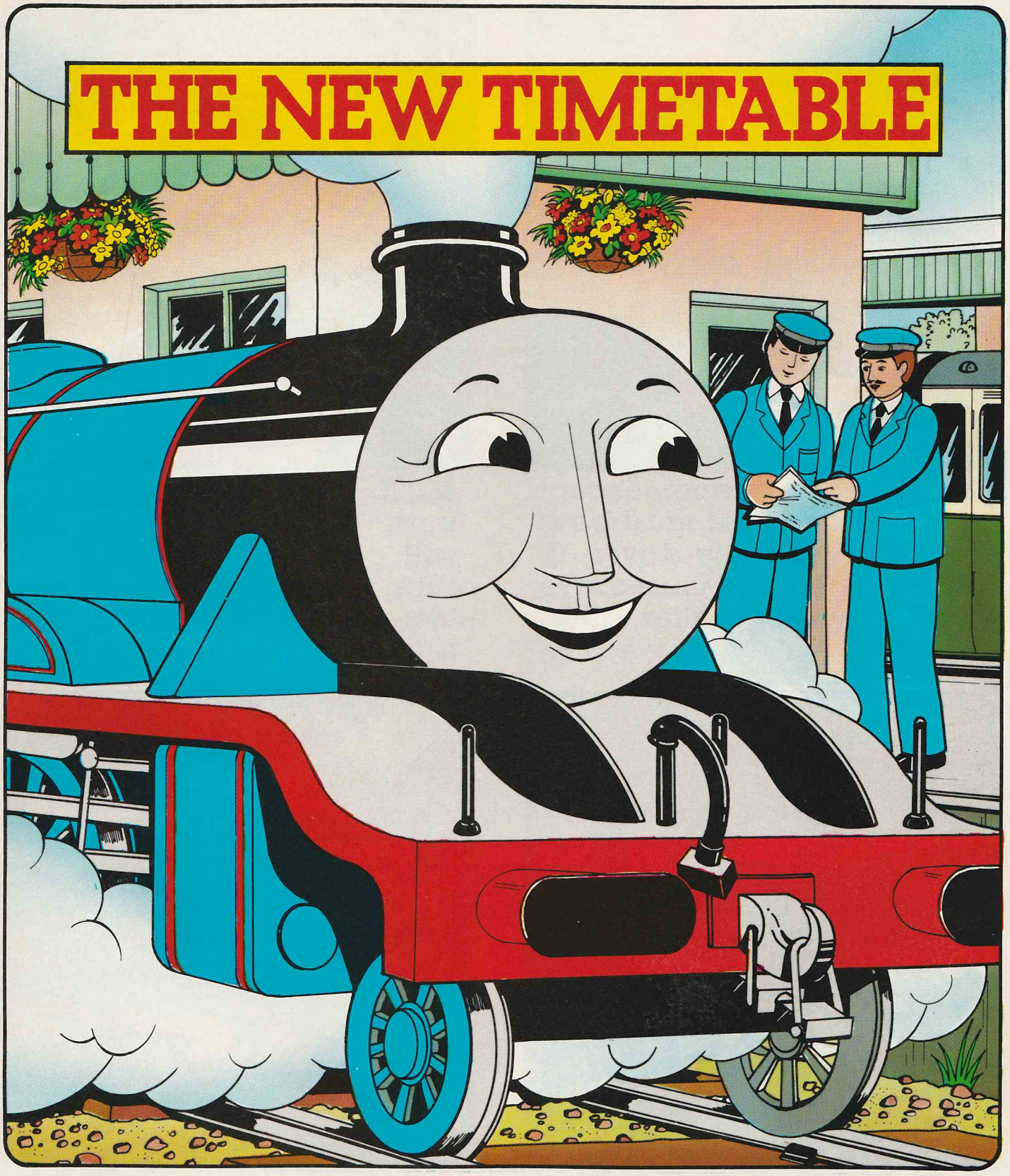
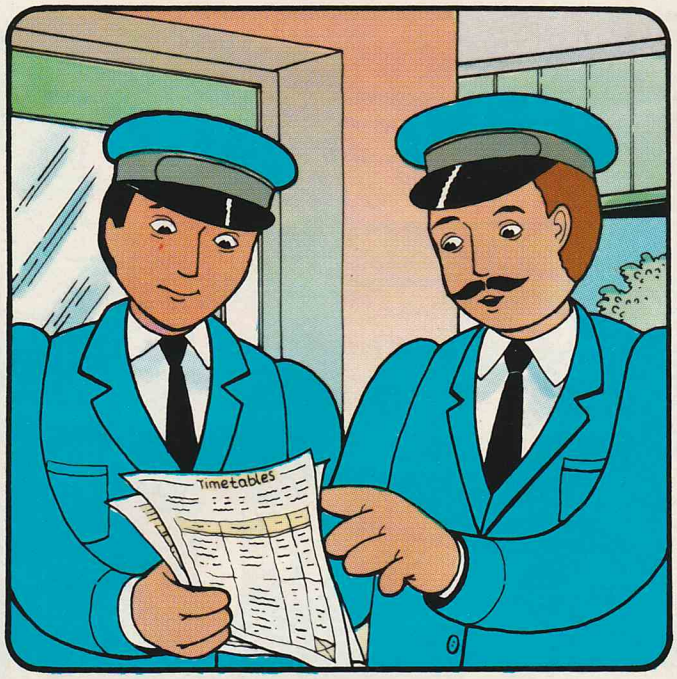
ABC

A listen and look story!



1. Gordon is a large and powerful engine, but he is very proud of himself. He also thinks he knows the most about how to run a railway.

2. One day some new timetables had arrived from the printers. Gordon's driver and fireman were looking at them to see if there were any changes.

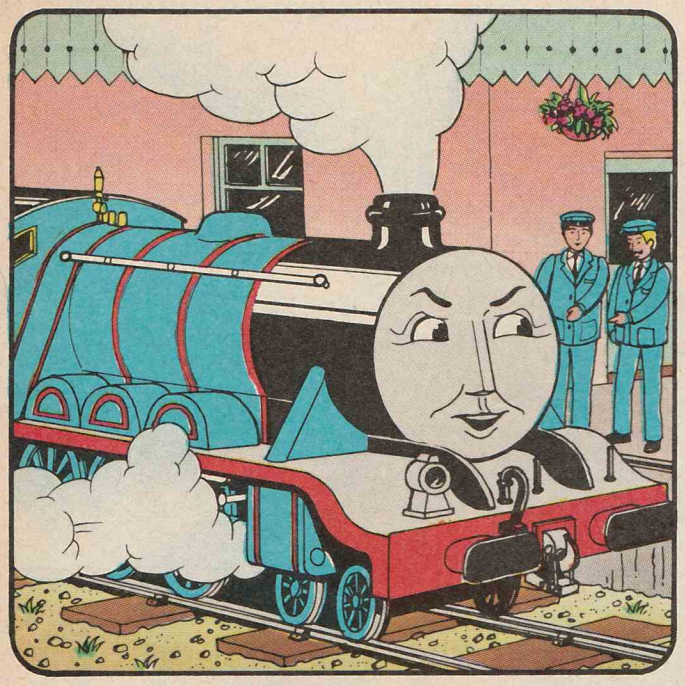


3. "There's no change except this one and that must be a mistake," said the driver. "It says that Gordon must arrive ten minutes earlier than usual."

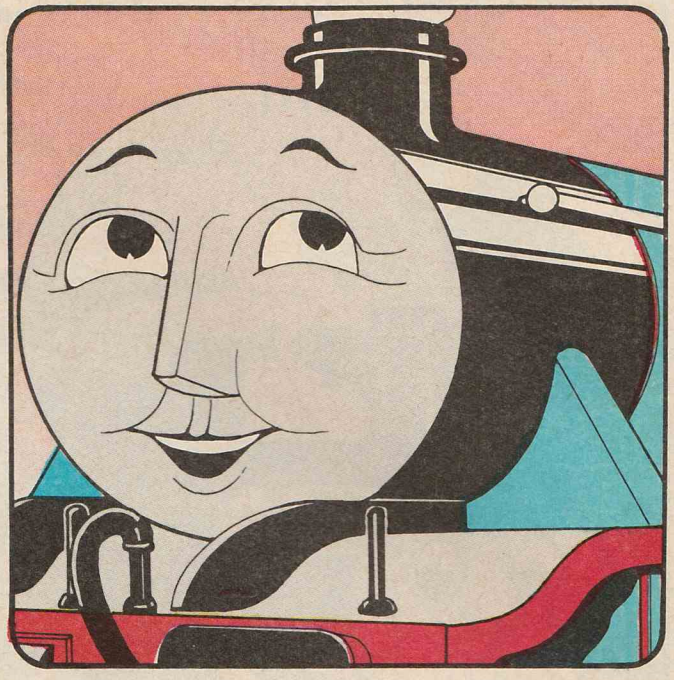
4. "If the timetable says I must arrive earlier then I will," said Gordon. "I must stick to the timetable. That's the correct way to run a railway."

5. There was no time for any more talk as Gordon had to take his next train. They set off and Gordon tried very hard to go even faster than usual.

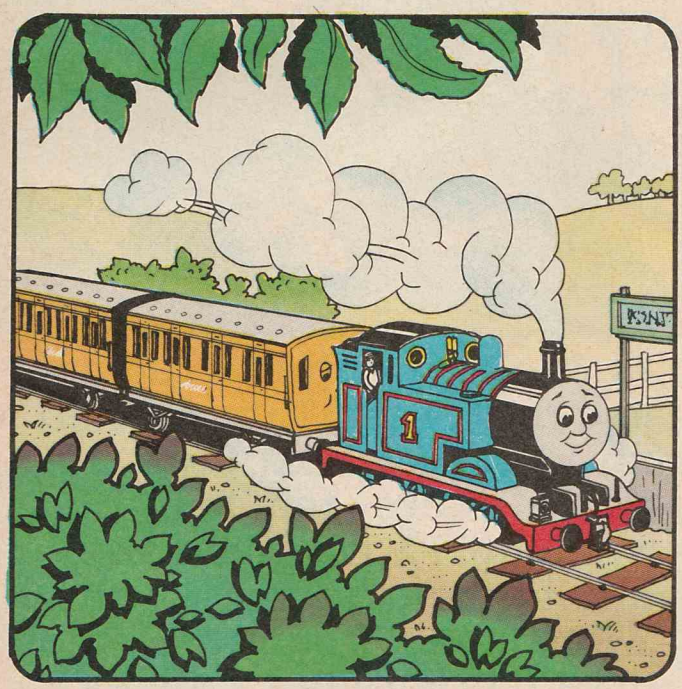
6. They reached the station where they usually met Thomas's train, but they were early and Thomas was not there yet. Gordon was getting impatient.



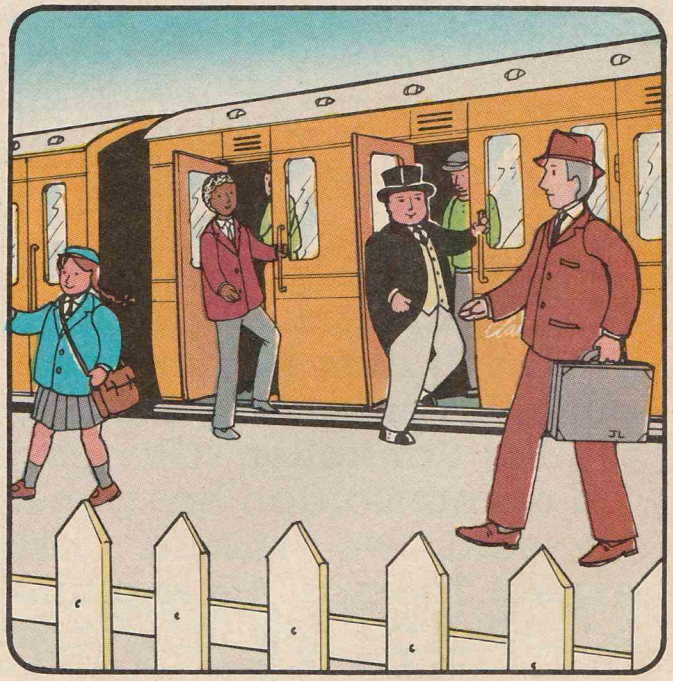
7. "I have to be ten minutes earlier," said Gordon. "It's a mistake," said his driver and fireman. "No it isn't! We have to leave now," said Gordon. "There's no time to waste."



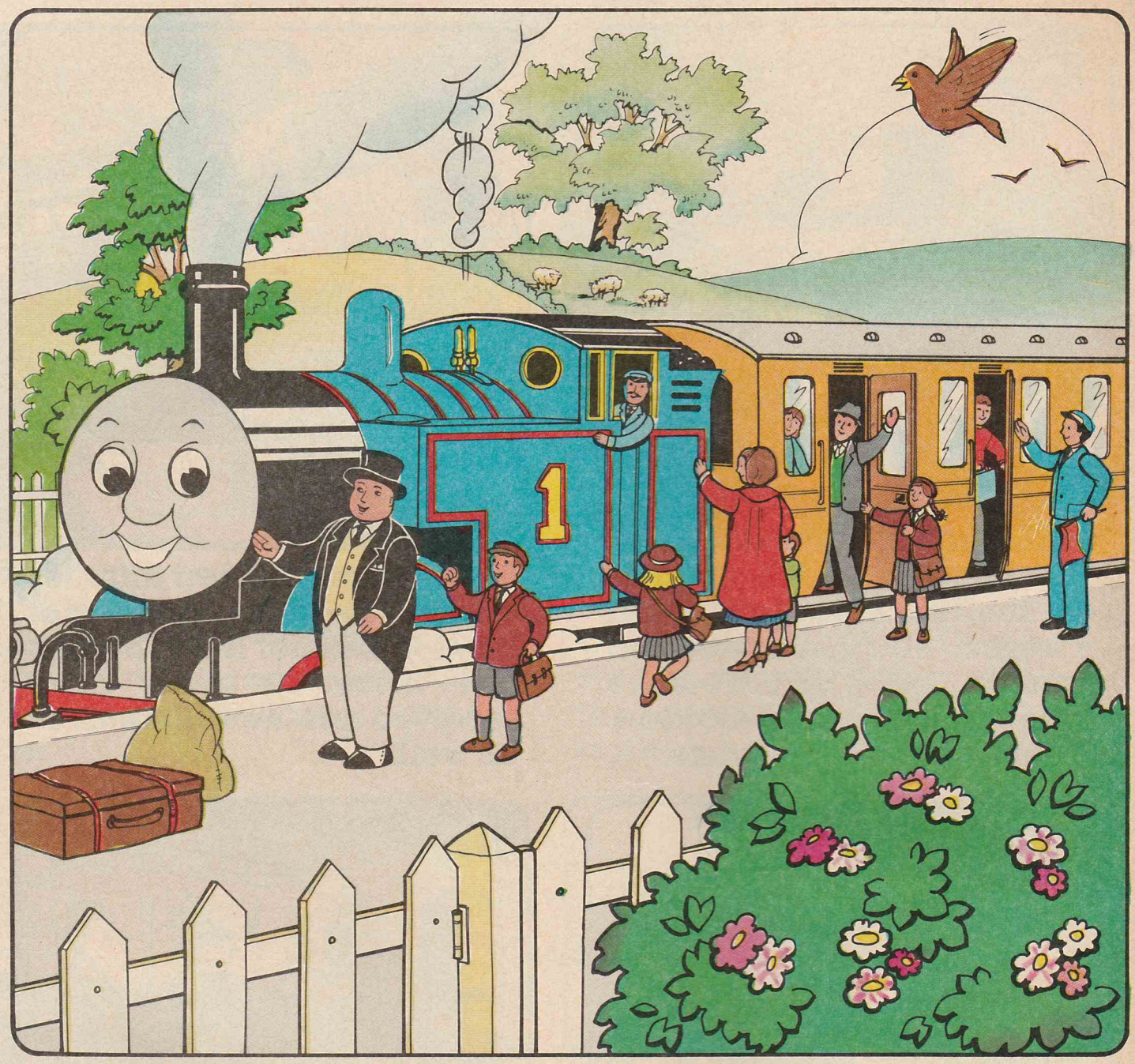
8. "I'm expected ten minutes earlier because I do not have to wait for little Thomas any more. He must have received his new timetable as well."



9. The driver and fireman thought Gordon must be right so they set off. As soon as they were out of sight Thomas appeared puffing down his branch line.



10. Thomas's passengers got out of Annie and Clarabel expecting to join Gordon's train. One of the passengers was very important: it was the Fat Controller.



11. The Station Master came out of his office and said to the Fat Controller, "Oh dear! I'm afraid Gordon has gone! He said we should not expect Thomas!" He explained about the new timetable. "That was obviously a mistake," said the Fat Controller. The passengers told the Fat Controller it was a very bad railway.

12. The Fat Controller did not like that. Then Thomas had an idea: "My next train was to be trucks, but they can wait until I have taken everyone to the station," he said. "Well done Thomas," said the Fat Controller. "You are a Really Useful Engine." Everyone got back into Annie and Clarabel, and off they went.

The story continues on page 17!

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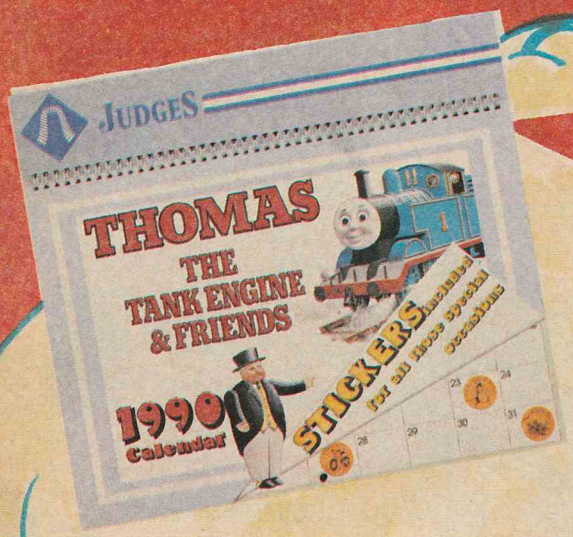

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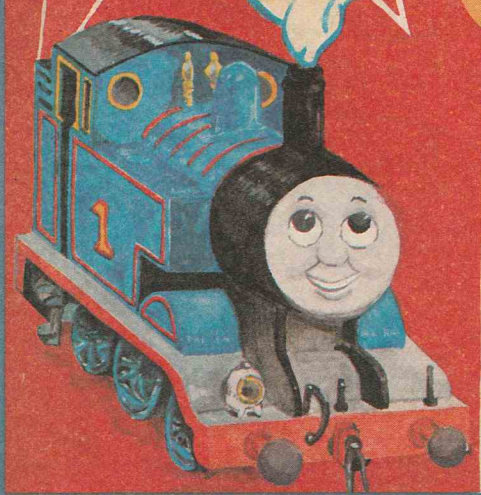

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JAMES'S JOKE GALLERY!

Why did the little boy throw his clock out of the window?

He wanted to see if time could fly!

Ben, aged 7.

What time is it when an elephant sits on your fence?

Time to get a new fence!

Craig, aged 5.

Why doesn't it cost very much to feed a horse?

Because a horse eats best when it doesn't have a bit in its mouth!

Simon, aged 7.

What do you call a shop that sells pets which can swim and fly?

A fish and cheep shop!

Adam, aged 4.

Why can't you play cards in the jungle?

There are too many cheetahs!

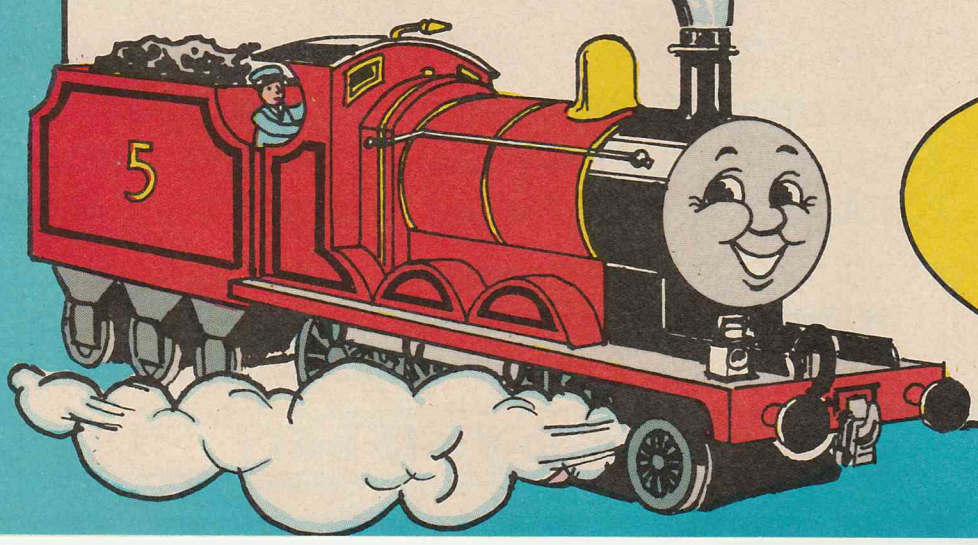
Thomas, aged 7.

Have you got a good joke for James's Joke Gallery? Why not send it in to him at the address on the letters page?

Did you hear about the leopard that kept himself very clean?

He was spotless!

David, aged 6.



Why was the cross-eyed teacher fired?

He had no control over his pupils!

James, aged 7.

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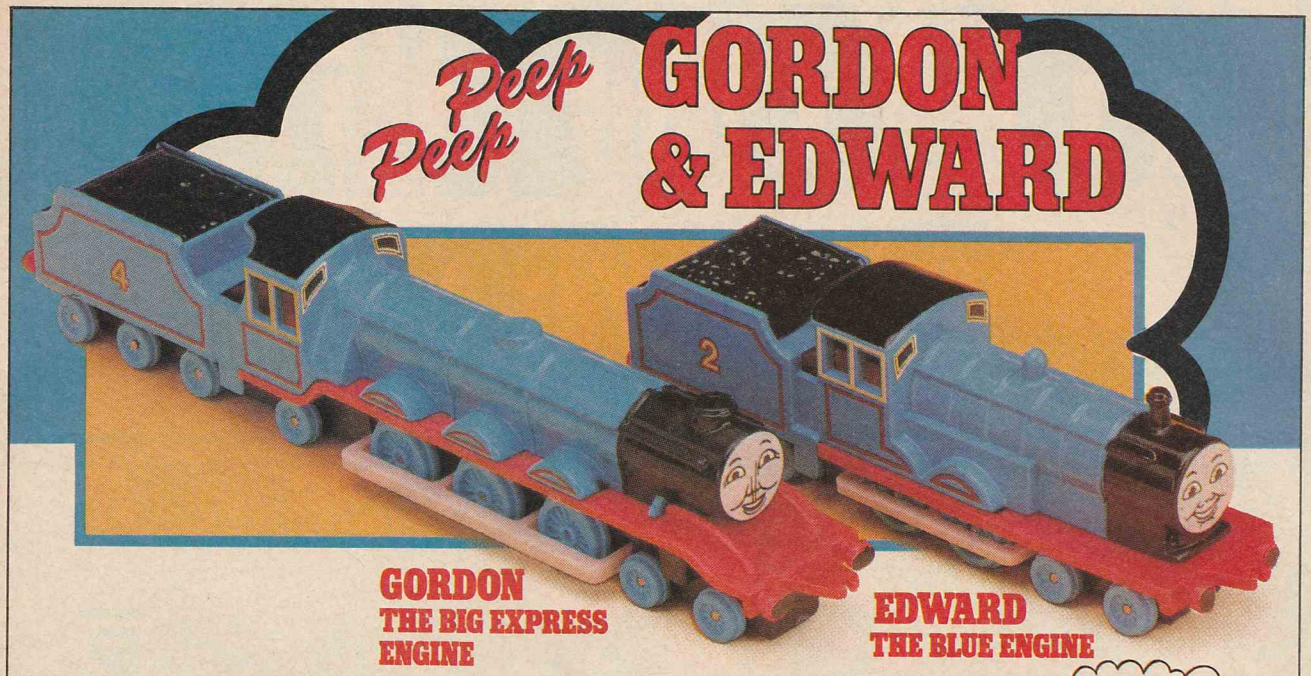

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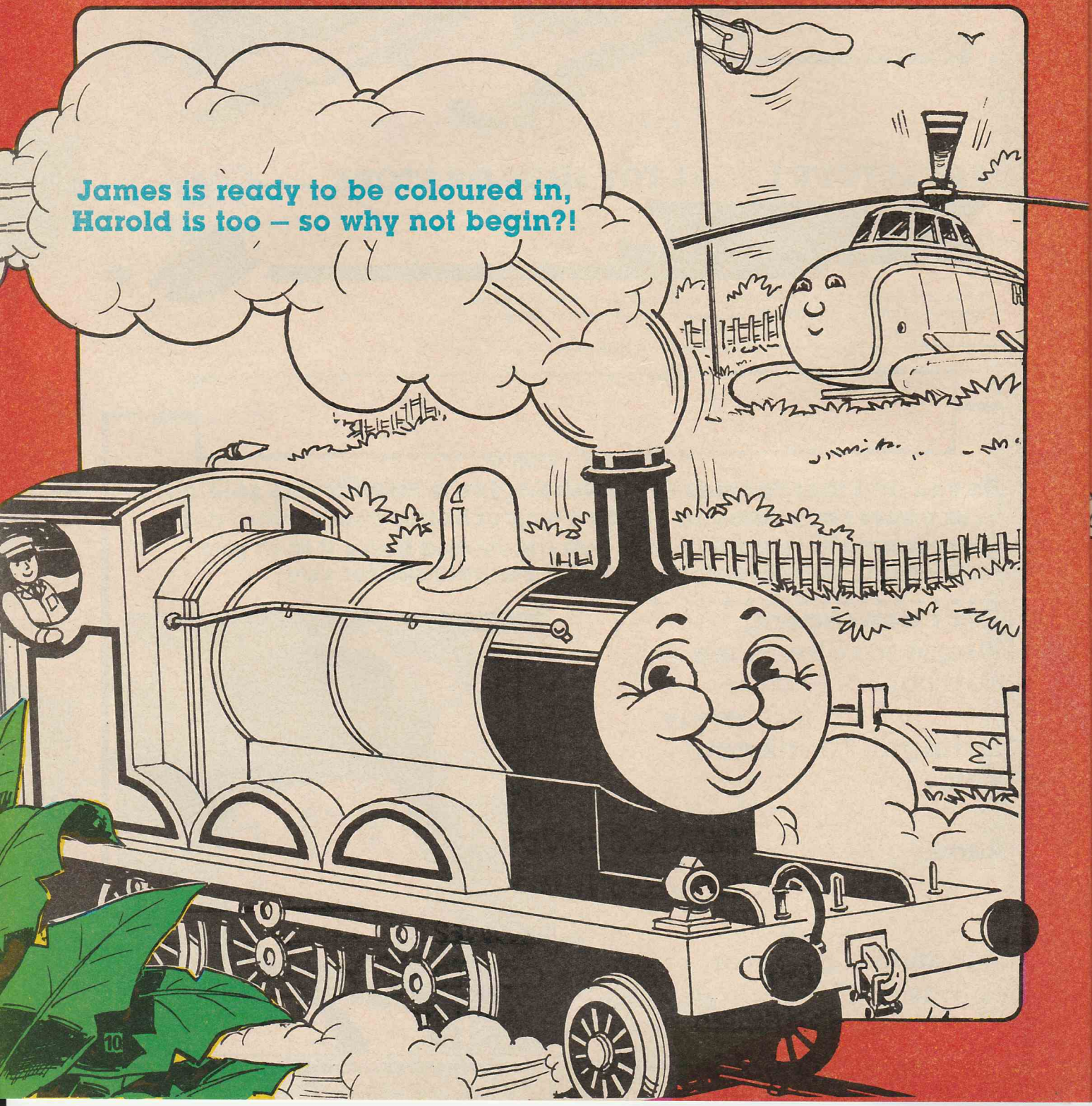
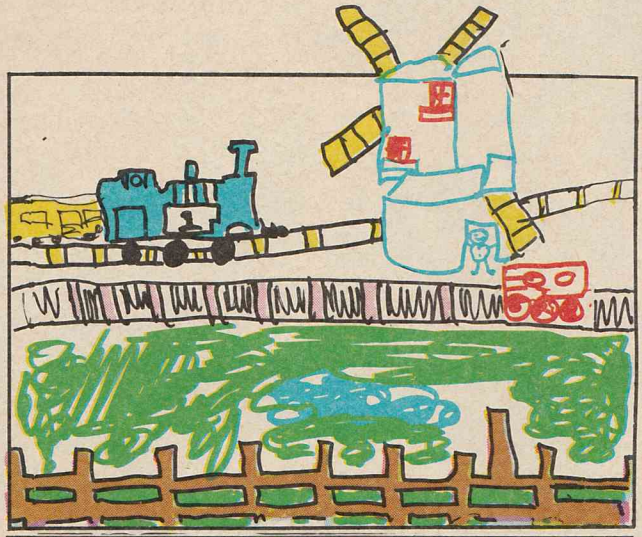
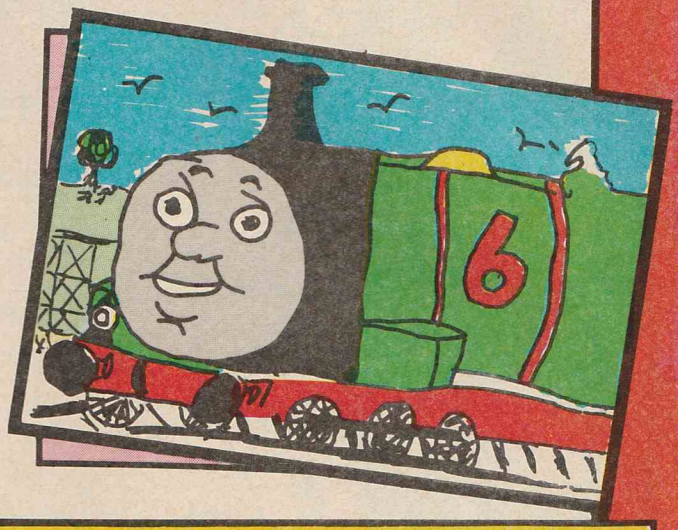


YOUR DRAWINGS
for the Fat Controller

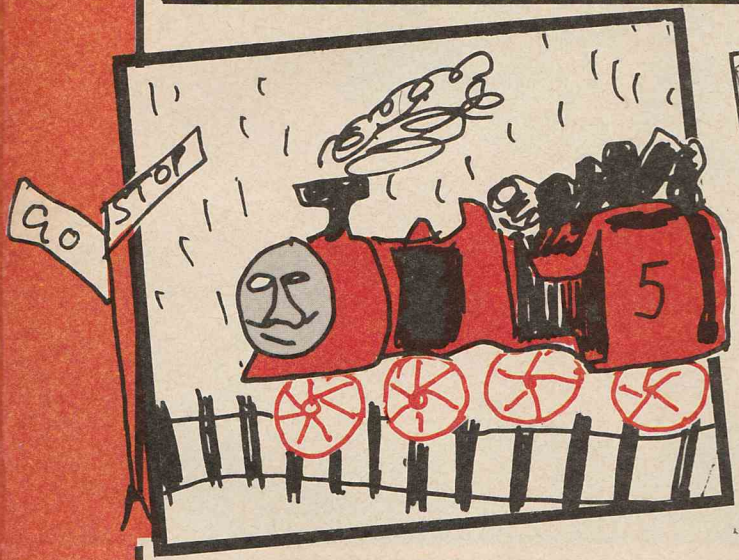
Here are just a few of the many splendid drawings that you have sent us. Can you see your picture?



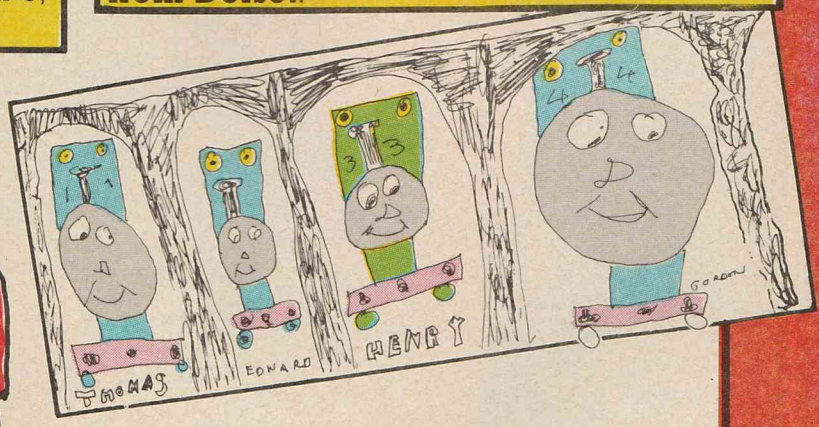
Can you see Thomas chugging past the windmill? This splendid picture was sent in by **Robert Laing**, aged 5, from Glasgow.



Percy looks very cheery indeed as he passes the countryside. This super picture was drawn by **Matthew Bates**, aged 8, from Dorset.



This super drawing of James stopping at a signal in the rain was drawn by **James Hill**, aged 3, from Bolton.



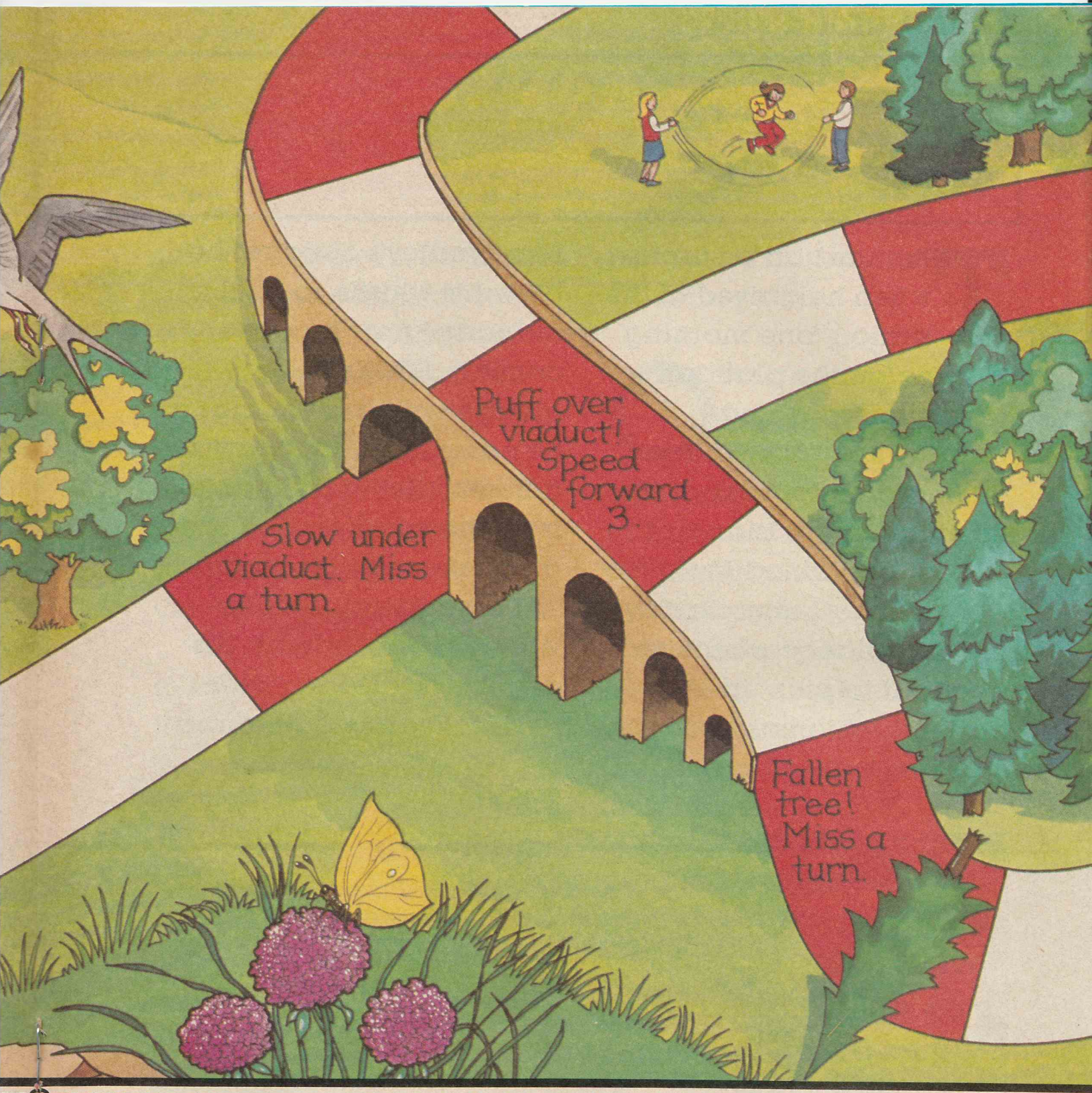
This splendid picture of all the engines safely in their shed was sent in by **David McManus**, aged 7, from Bristol. Well done, David!

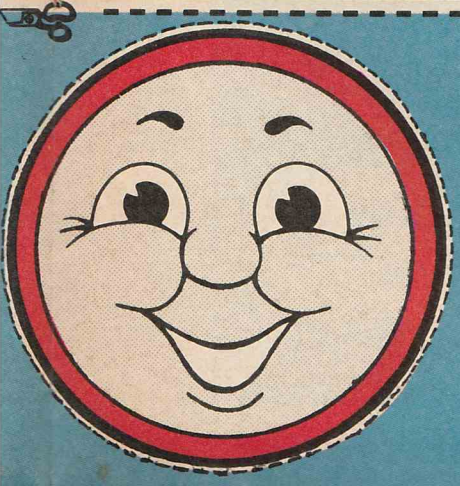
Thank you all for sending in your pictures – we are sorry that we could not print every one! If you would like to draw a picture for us, please send it to: *The Fat Controller (Pictures Page), The Island of Sodor, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

THOMAS'S Game

Part 2

This is the second part of Thomas's dice game. Be sure not to miss the next two issues of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** for the third and fourth parts! Stick this double page on to thin card, cut the blue border off along the dotted lines and cut out your second counter. This part of the game will fit below the part from our last issue – the edges will overlap slightly, but you can trim them to fit exactly.





What colour is the bandstand?
How many people are on the beach?
Point to the butterfly!
Is there a boat in the sea?
Why has the game of football stopped?
How many children are playing at skipping?

A read-aloud story!

Thomas and th

Thomas had a surprise when he arrived at the station, one morning. Waiting on the platform was a young woman, wearing a nurse's uniform.

"I'm going to work at the hospital on the Island of Sodor", explained the nurse. "I shall accompany the ambulance whenever it goes out to pick up patients." Thomas liked the nurse

The next day, Thomas woke to find it raining very heavily. When Thomas approached

nurse

Mrs Kyndley's cottage, he blew his whistle to let the old lady know he was coming. Mrs Kyndley always waved to Thomas as he passed by. But today was different. She didn't wave from the window, and she didn't come to the door.

"I do hope nothing is wrong," said Thomas. His driver was also worried.

"I'll take a look," he said.

The driver soon came running back through the rain . . .

"Mrs Kyndley has had an accident," he gasped. "She's fallen down the stairs and hurt her leg. I've phoned for an ambulance to take her to hospital."

Thomas's driver stayed with Mrs Kyndley until the ambulance arrived. The nurse whom Thomas had met was there

he Ambulance

too. Mrs Kyndley was carried aboard the ambulance on a stretcher. But when the ambulance tried to drive away, its wheels became stuck in the mud.

"Oh dear," said the nurse. "How can we get to the hospital now? It's too far to carry Mrs Kyndley."

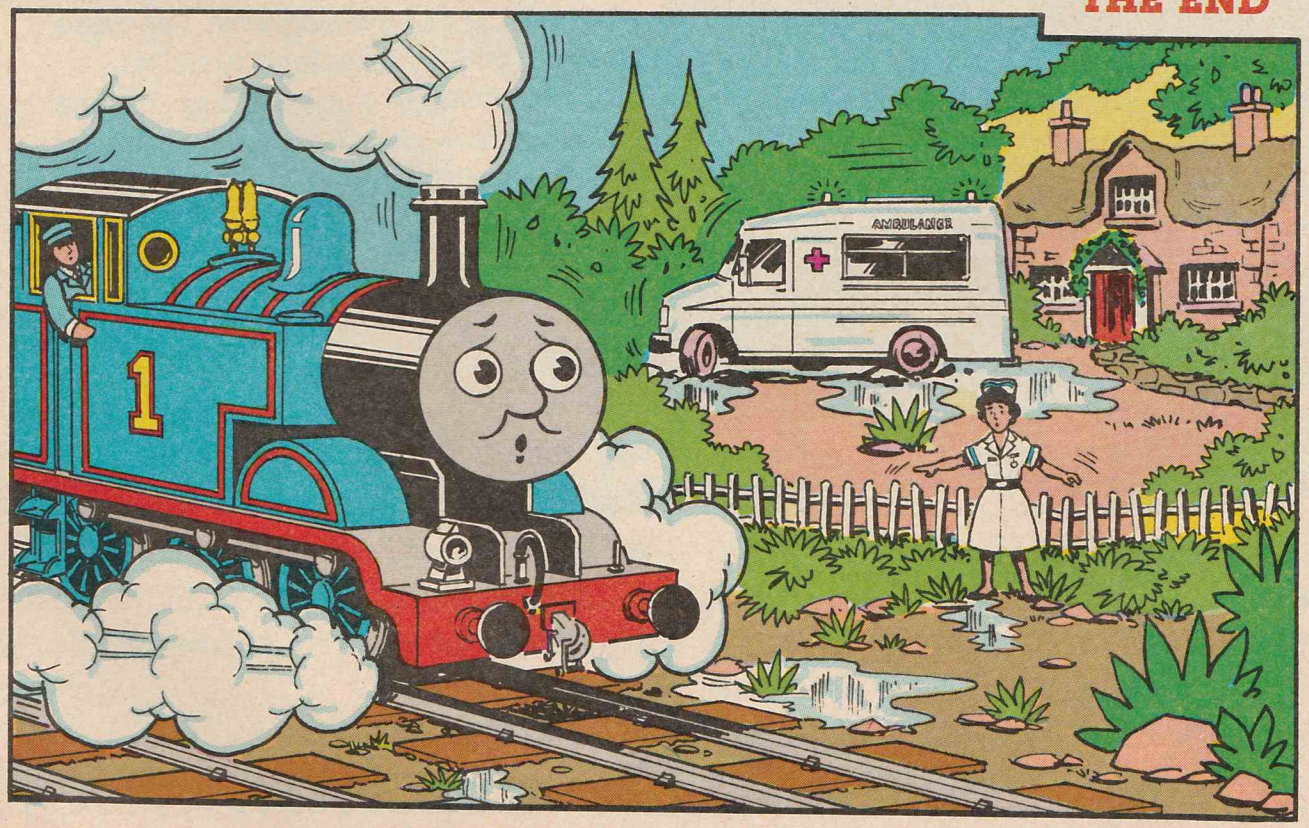
"Please, sir," said Thomas to his driver. "Why don't we take Mrs Kyndley to hospital in Annie?"

"Good idea, Thomas," replied his driver. And this is what they did.

One morning, the next week, when Thomas pulled out of the shed to start work, he saw the nurse waiting on the platform.

"Mrs Kyndley is better now, Thomas," she said. "Thanks to you. You're a very clever and Really Useful Engine." Thomas did feel proud!

THE END



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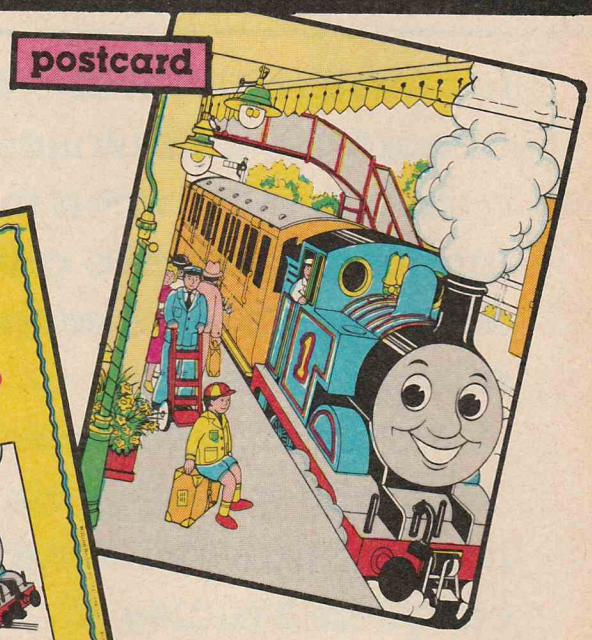

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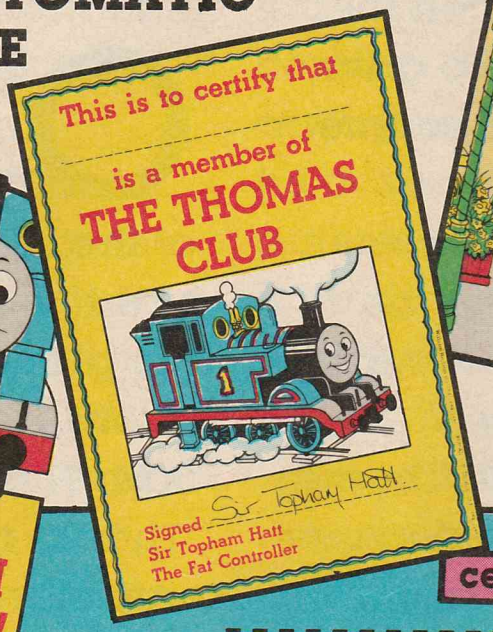

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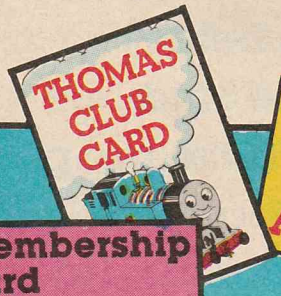

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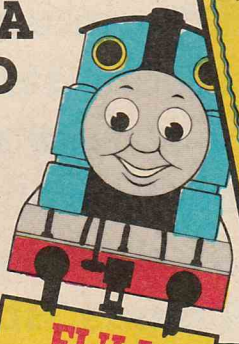

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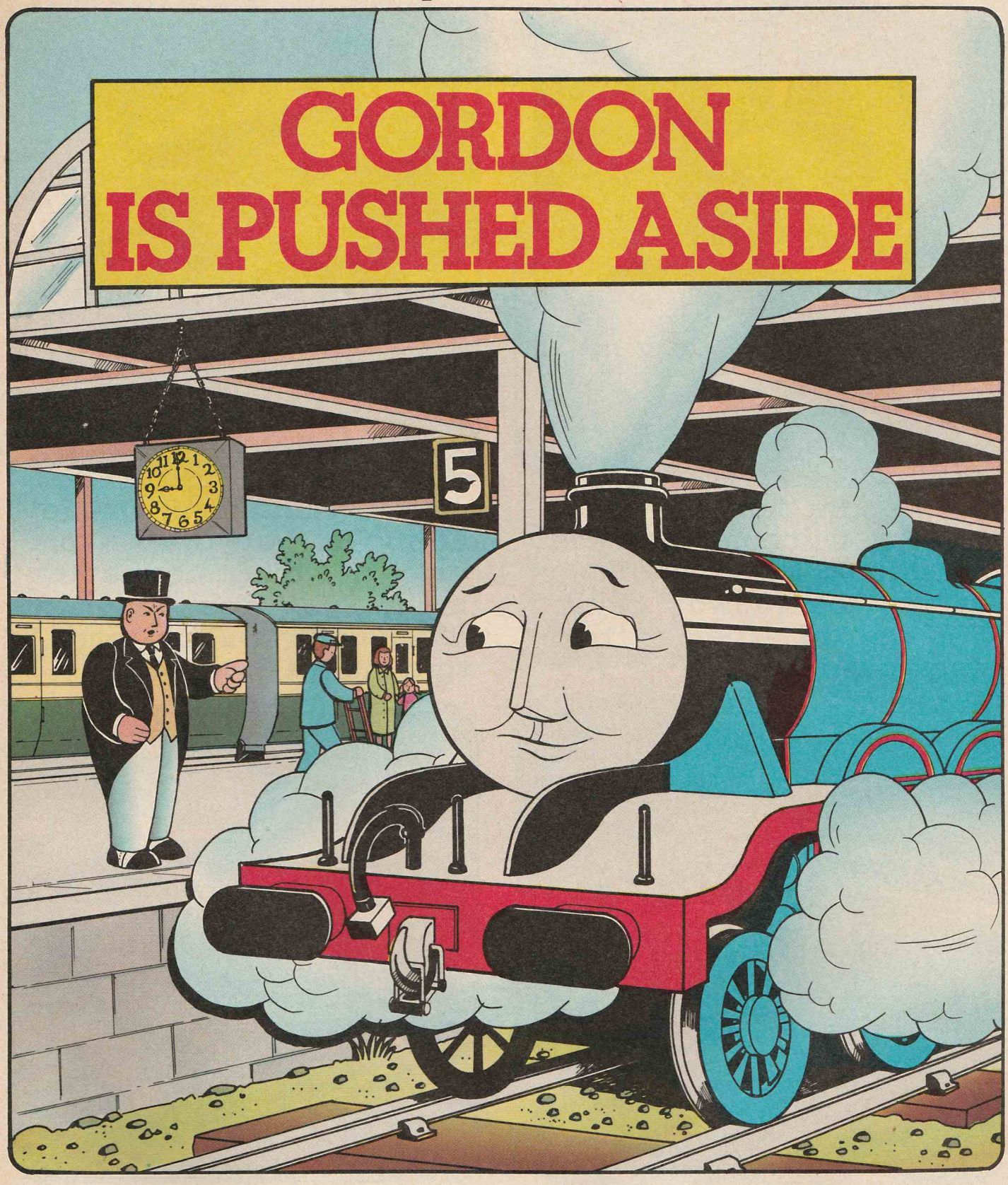
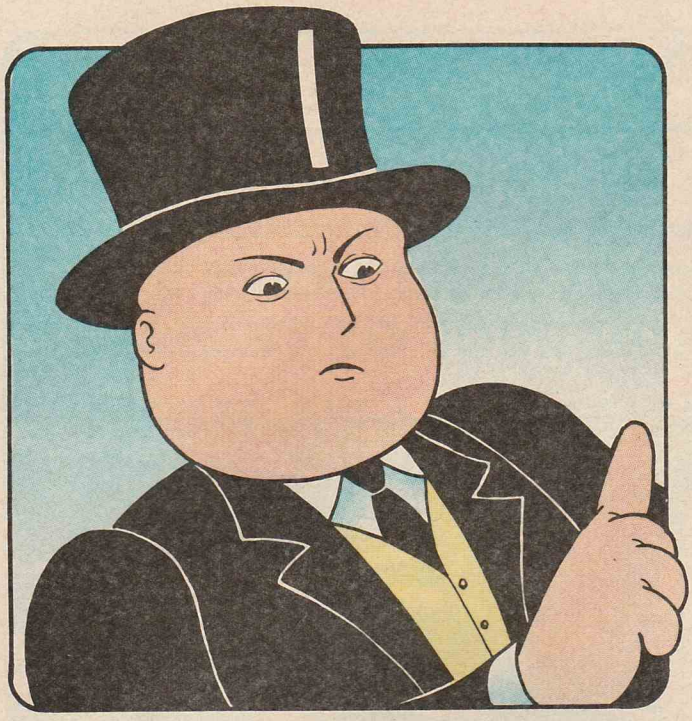
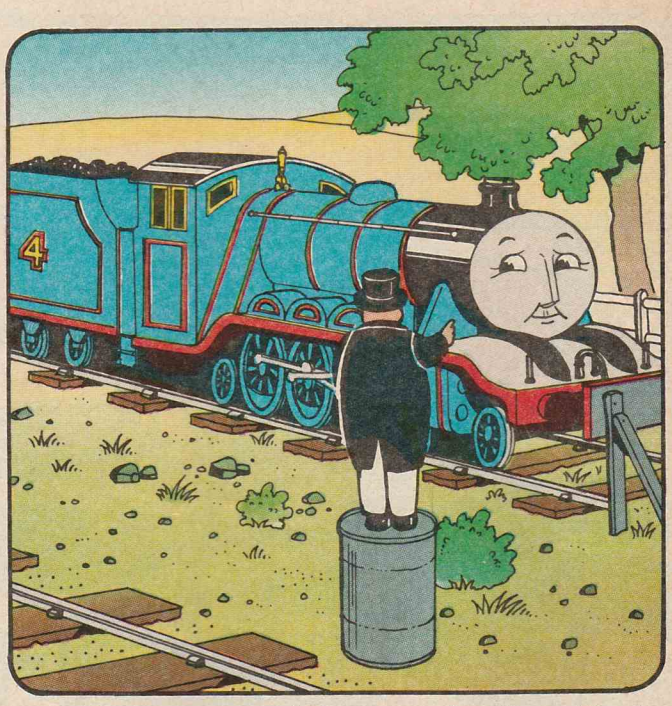


1. The Fat Controller was very cross with Gordon because he had not waited for Thomas's train. "The timetable said I had to arrive early," said Gordon.

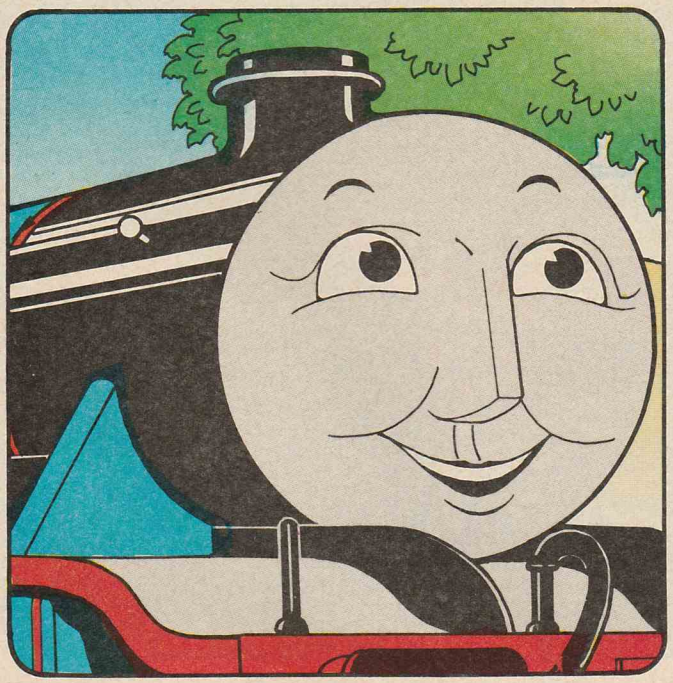
2. "You should have seen that the timetable was wrong. You know you have to wait for Thomas and pick up his passengers," said the Fat Controller.



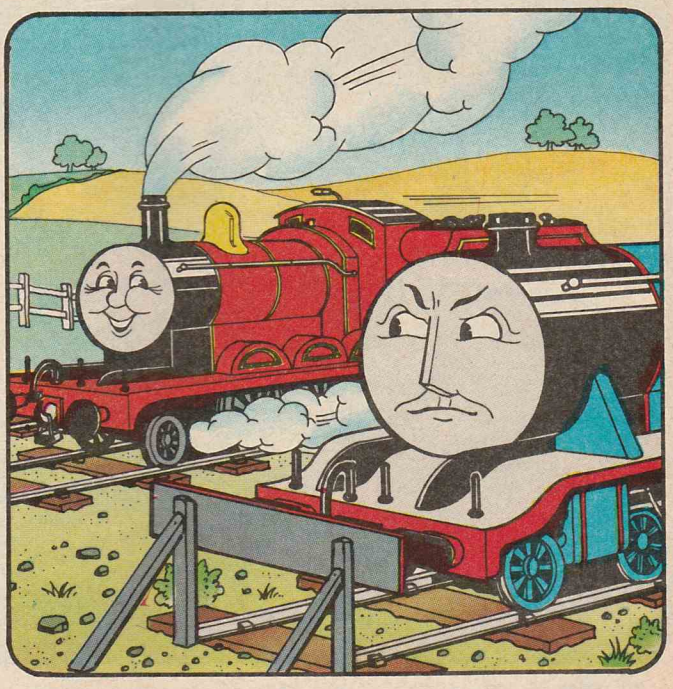
3. "We are here to run a railway. Of course we need timetables, but only to help us run the railway better. You are an extremely bad engine indeed."



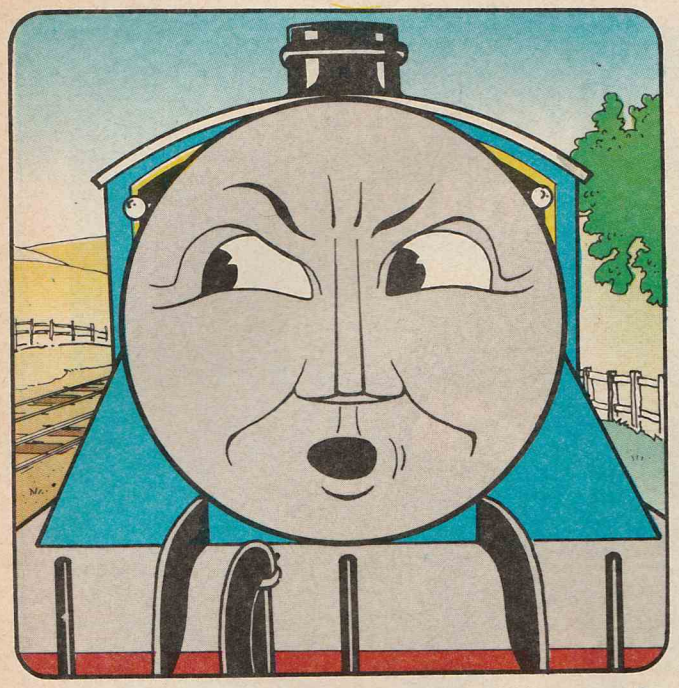
4. As a punishment, the Fat Controller had Gordon put onto a siding beside the main line. "You will stay there until you are sorry," said the Fat Controller.



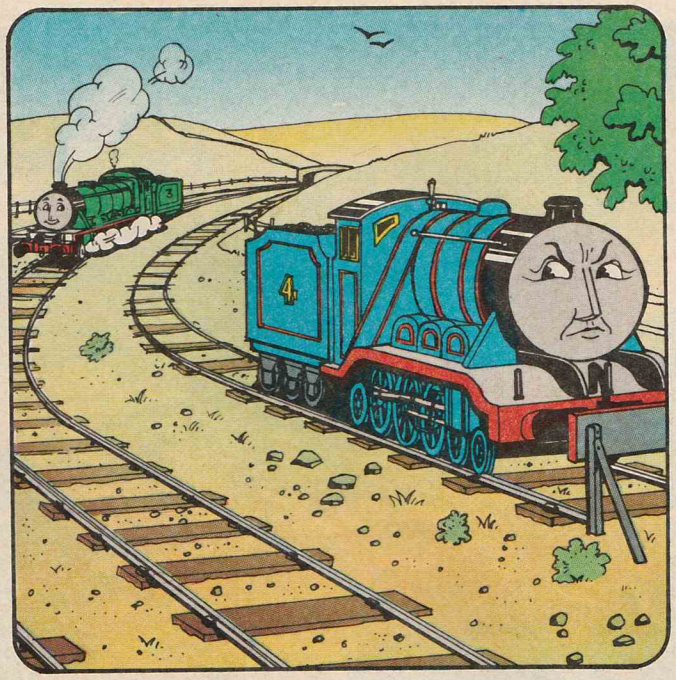
5. But Gordon was not sorry. He still thought he was right to follow the timetable exactly. "I am always on time, no matter what," he thought.



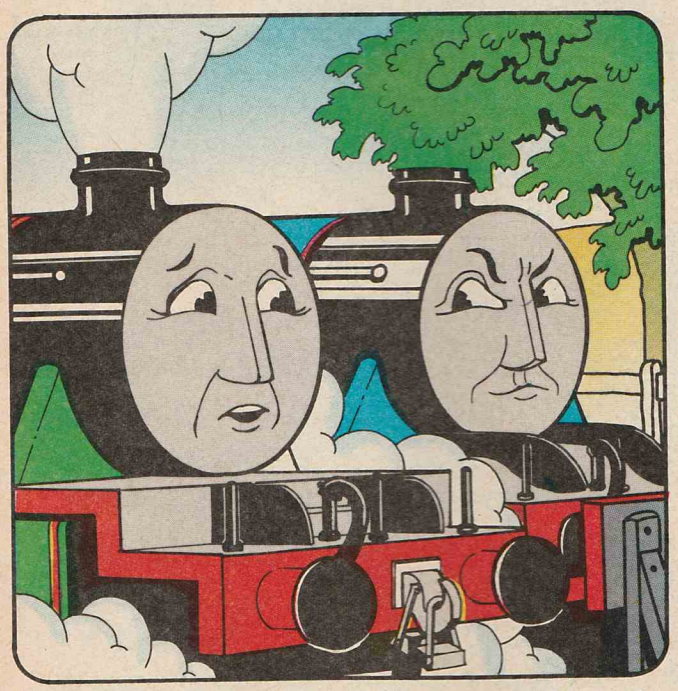
6. James came by and asked Gordon, "What are you doing on that siding?" Gordon looked very angry. He did not want to tell James the truth.



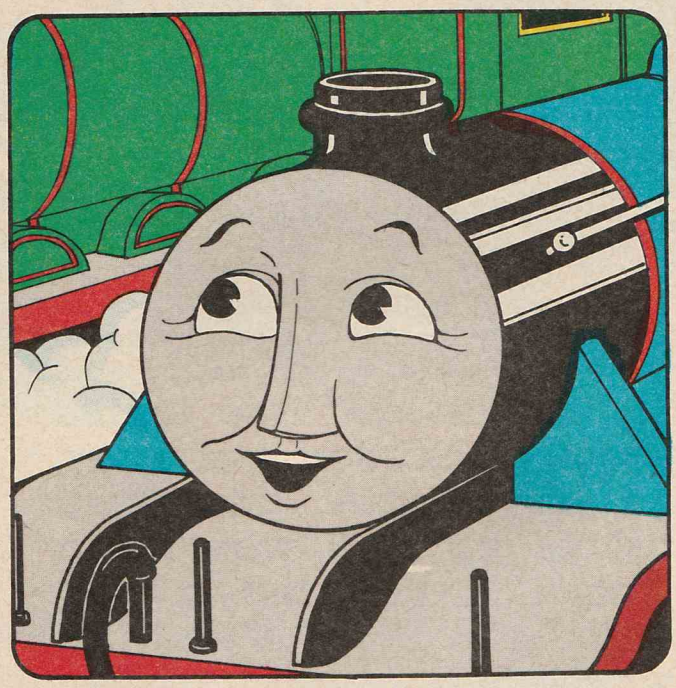
7. "I have been positioned here as an example to all you smaller engines, so you can look at me and see what a Really Fine Engine looks like."



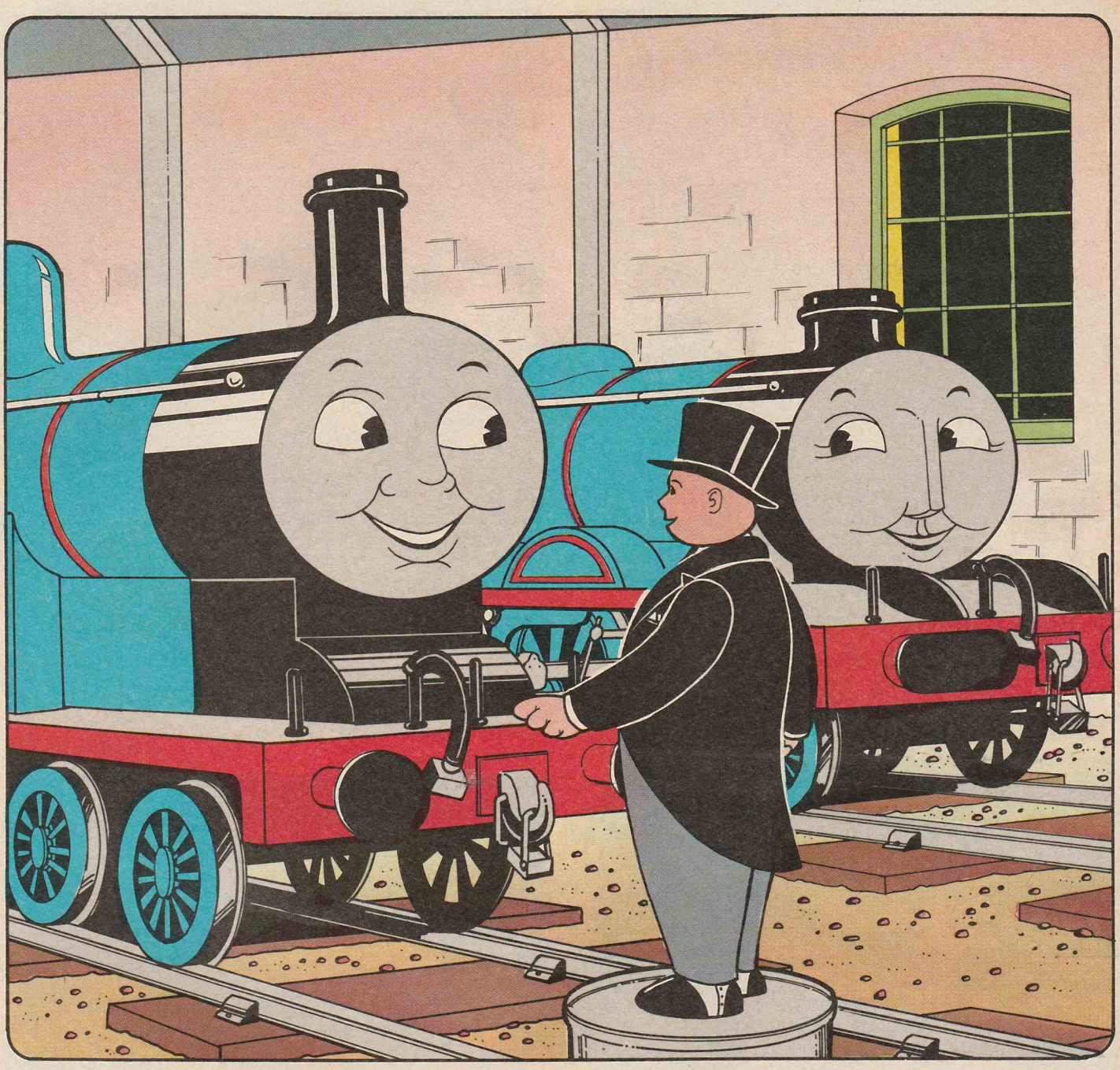
8. James did not believe any of this and he puffed away laughing. This made Gordon even angrier. Next to come puffing down the line was Henry.



9. "Oh dear, left on a siding! Are you being punished for doing something wrong, Gordon?" asked Henry. "No, of course I am not", said Gordon.



10. "I've been asked to stay here and watch all you other engines, just to make sure that you are all running on time." Henry did not believe Gordon either.



11. But at last, late in the evening, Gordon was sorry. Edward came past and asked why he was on a siding. "I followed a new timetable even though it was wrong. I didn't wait for Thomas's train and the passengers got left behind." said Gordon. "I may have been silly but I was not being bad."

12. At the station Edward saw the Fat Controller and said, "Gordon knows he was silly but he didn't mean to be bad." "Alright Edward," said the Fat Controller, "You can take his driver and fireman to get him." Gordon was very glad to get back to his shed. "Passengers are more important than timetables," he said.

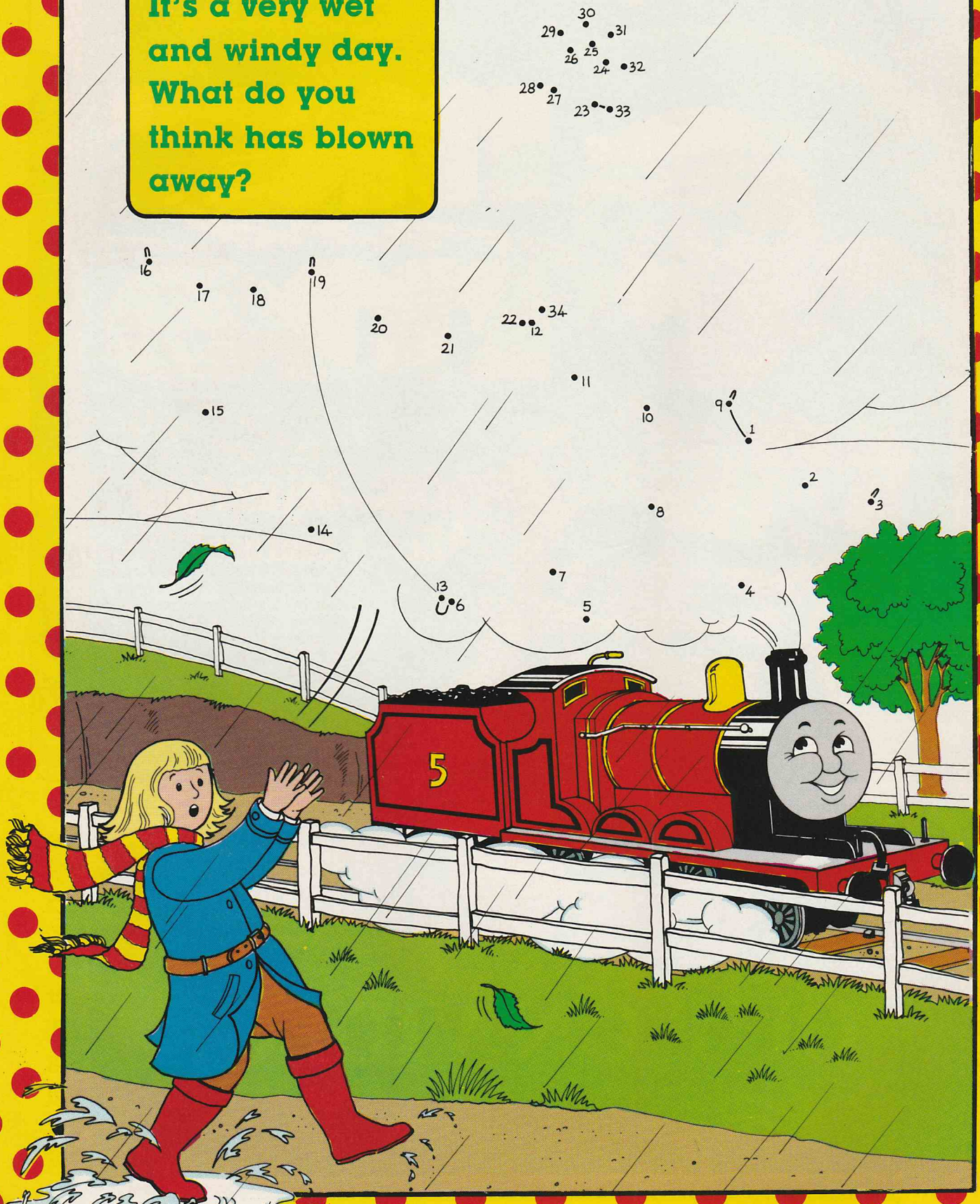
THE END

More fun on the line in our next issue!

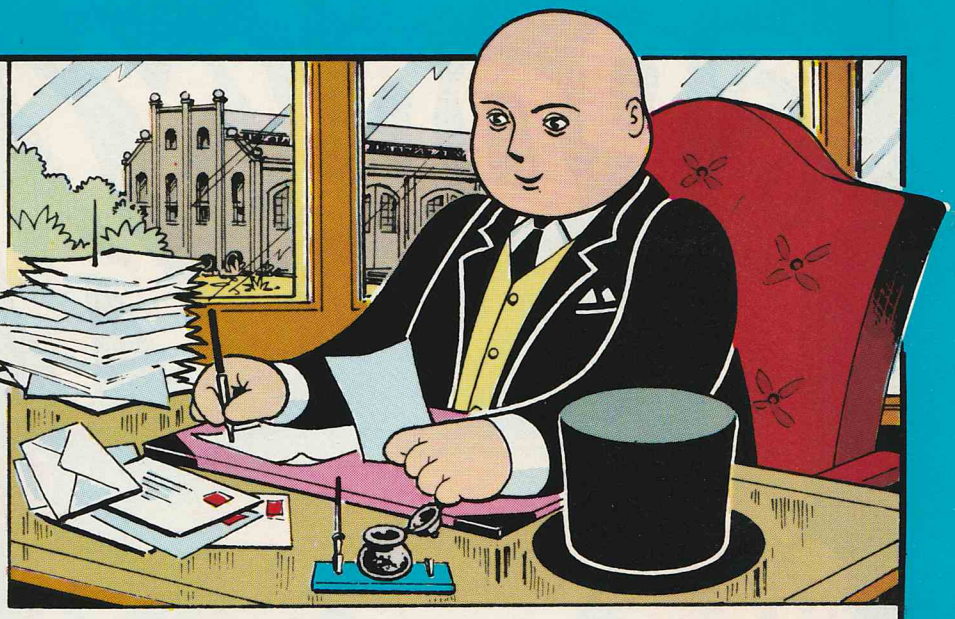
Out of this world ...
and into your video store!
mac and me
U
mac "Mysterious Alien Creature"
OUT ON VIDEO!
VISION INTERNATIONAL Presents A R. J. LOUIS Production "MAC AND ME" CHRISTINE EBERSOLE
JONATHAN WARD KATRINA CASPARY LAUREN STANLEY And Introducing JADE CALEGORY Music By ALAN SILVESTRI
Music Supervisor BROOKS ARTHUR Editor TOM WALLS Director of Photography NICK McLEAN Executive Producers MARK DAMON · WILLIAM B. KERR
Written By STEWART RAFFILL AND STEVE FEKE Produced By R. J. LOUIS Directed By STEWART RAFFILL
GUILD Home Video

JOIN THE DOTS!

It's a very wet and windy day. What do you think has blown away?



Write to the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below? I should be so very pleased to hear from you!

★★★★★★★★★

STAR LETTER

Can you tell me if Thomas's fireman cooks his breakfast on a shovel in Thomas's firebox? Because my grandad used to do this when he was a fireman.

Love from **Georgie,** aged 2.

Upon my soul! To my knowledge, Thomas's driver eats his breakfast in the staff canteen alongside all the other drivers. It is something I shall have to look into though!

★★★★★★★★★

Georgie wins a splendid Thomas the Tank Engine torch from *Uni-lite Leisure Ltd.*

STARTING WORK!

Dear Fat Controller,

Please can you tell me what time Thomas has to start work in the morning?

From **Greg,** aged 5.

Thomas starts work very early indeed! At five o'clock in the morning when the shed doors are opened, Thomas is always the first engine keen and ready for work.

MY FAVOURITE!

Dear Fat Controller,

What train do you like best out of all your engines? I like Thomas the Tank Engine best of all!

Love from **Gary,** aged 4.

*Well, well! Thomas will be pleased to hear that! As for myself, I do not have a favourite engine. Because at the end of each day all my engines work just as hard as each other. Besides, it wouldn't be fair for **me** to have a favourite, would it?*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Our very best birthday wishes go to:

Ian Tanner (31102), Marc Robinson, Philip Abbot, David Williams, Michael Newhouse, Peter Tribble, Jamie Snell (30308), Eric Credland (9333), Adam John Luck (23917), Simon O.T. Campbell (17348), Adam Skinner (18905), Martin Launchbury, Thomas Laight, Oliver Sadler (22587), Karl M. Gregory (27414), Peter Smart, Nicholas Liddon (26372), Mark Williamson, Steven Stokes (25483), James McIsaac (30459), Andrew Mark Davies, Andrew Gillingham (26991), David Gould, Matthew London, Andrew Hailes (10533), Benjamin Chant (28694), Mark Hall (30963), Stuart Phebes and Henry Peter Riggal.

Many happy returns to you all!

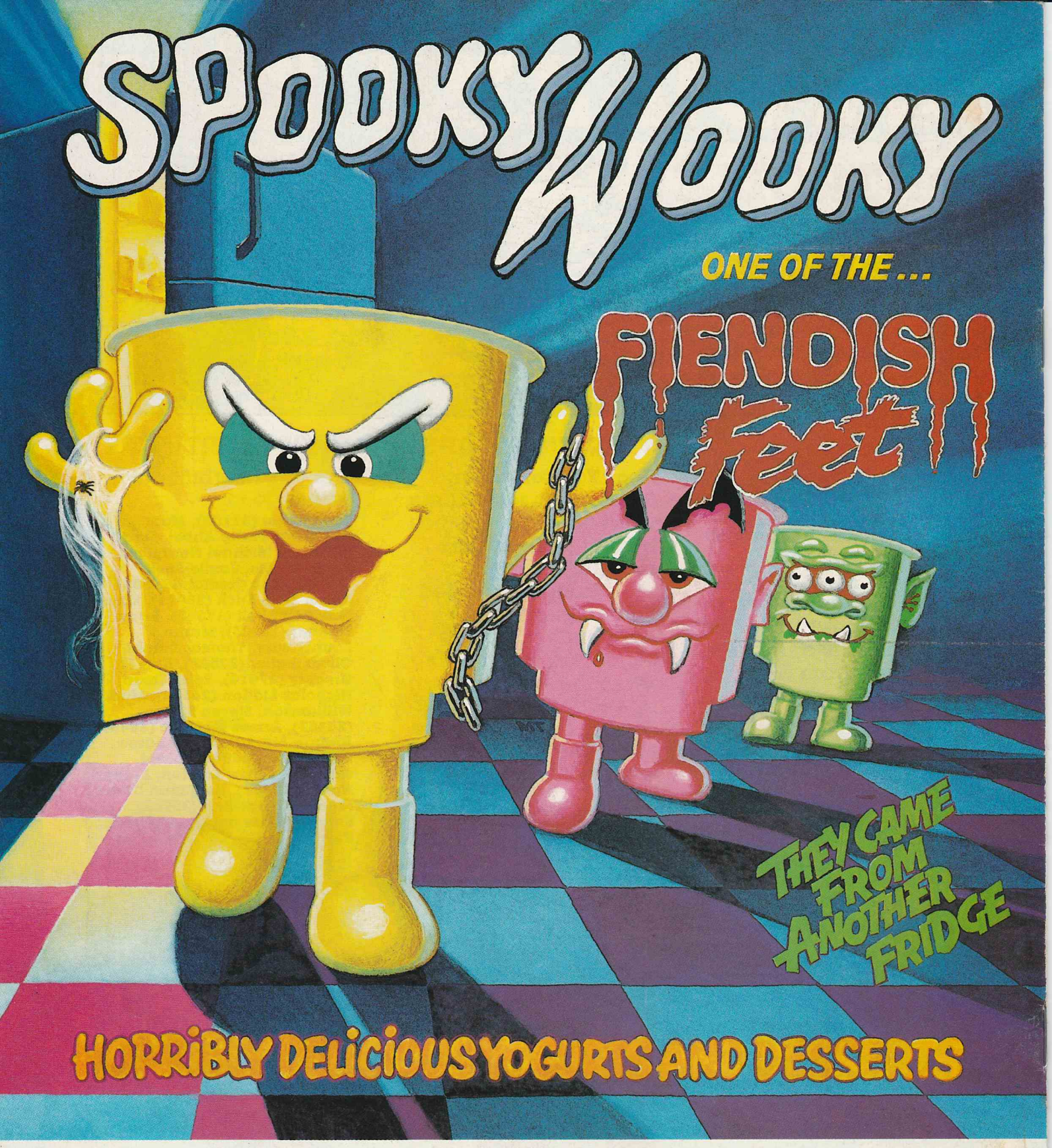
If you'd like a mention, just send details on a postcard please, at least **9 weeks in advance**. We cannot promise to print all the birthdays we receive, but we will try our best!

Yours,

Sir Topham Hatt.

the Fat Controller.

Send your letters to: The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.



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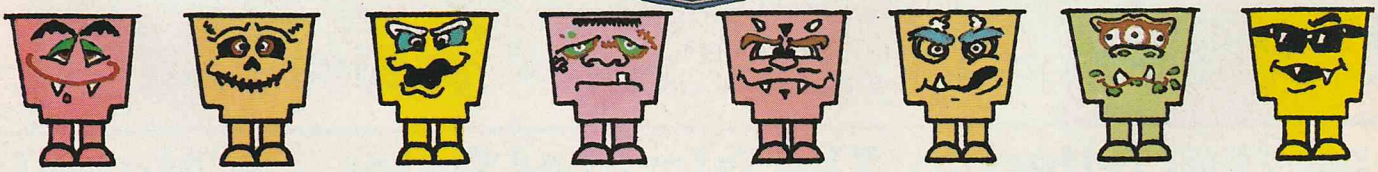

FANGS A LOT | RATTLE 'N' ROLL | SPOOKY WOOKY | FRANK 'N' STEIN | HORRIBLE HERMAN | SLURPY BERTIE | DOOYA FINKISAURUS | HOWLING WILF

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